2015 Annual Report
Graphic Novels & Comics in Libraries Member Initiative Group

MIG Charge:
To provide a method for engagement and networking among ALA members interested in comic books and graphic novels. To collaborate with ALA units to support the inclusion of comic books and graphic novels in library initiatives and programs across the Association. To advocate for wider incorporation and acceptance by the profession and the Association for comic books and graphic novels in library services, programming, and collections. This group is open to all members, and encourages participation from members from all library types and members who serve various library user demographics.

MIG Conveners – Robin Brenner, Toby Greenwalt, David Lisa, Mike Pawuk, Eva Volin
Staff Liaison – Tina Coleman

Accomplishments:

2015 Midwinter

- The MIG held a business meeting on Sunday during which programs were proposed for ALA Annual in San Francisco, collection development strategies were shared, and cataloging issues were discussed
- The MIG sponsored two panels during ALA Midwinter:
  - Making Educational Comics: Why Should Pros Have All the Fun
  - Superhero Showdown: A Bracket for Debate

2015 Annual

- The MIG sponsored GraphiCon15, our annual “Comic-Con within a Con,” four panels, and one 4-hour Discussion Forum during ALA Annual:
  - GraphiCon Discussion Forum: Diversity in Comics
    - His, Hers, and Theirs: Gender and Comics
    - Out of the Closet and Into the Library: Queer Comics are Here
    - #WeNeedDiverseComics
  - Kids Comics Have Arrived
  - Best/Worst Comics and Manga for Kids
  - Adventures in the Archives
  - Graphic Novel Petting Zoo
- The MIG supported several panels sponsored by other organizations by acting as moderator and/or panelist
- The MIG continued its partnership with the Games and Gaming Round Table in the production of the ALAPlay event
- Staff liaison Tina Coleman acted as the point person for GraphiCon, which included both the Graphic Novels and Gaming Stage and Artists Alley, located in the exhibit hall
Additional Activities:

- Sponsored four professional panels at New York Comic Con, which took place October 9-12, 2014:
  - Comics: What We’ve Lost, What’s Ahead
  - Saving Indecent Comics
  - Teachers Making Educational Comics: Why Should Pros Have All the Fun?
  - #WeNeedDiverse(Comic)Books: Diversity in Comics
- Hosted an I Love My Libraries booth space and sponsored three professional panels at C2E2, which took place April 24 – 26, 2015:
  - Educators Making Educational Comics: Why Should the Pros Have All the Fun?
  - Special Collections: Comics and Science Fiction in Libraries
  - Circulation and Programming With LGBTQ YA Literature and Comics at Your Library
- Supplied materials and marketing support for libraries and librarians participating in Denver Comic Con, including working with the DCC organizers to increase the size of the Library Booth – May 23-25, 2015
- Helped find jurors for the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Innovation Grant and the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Award for Libraries
- Corresponded with representative from Japanese comics publishers regarding the various ways comics are used in libraries and how these publishers might benefit from attending a future ALA Annual Conference

Planned Activities:

- Hold annual business meeting at ALA Midwinter in Boston
- Continue to develop and present Best/Worst Comics and Manga and Graphic Novel Petting Zoo panels annually at ALA Annual Conferences; Best/Worst Comics and Manga for Grown-Ups has been proposed for 2016 ALA Annual in Orlando
- Continue to sponsor GraphiCon at future ALA Annual Conferences
- Continue to work with the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation to refine the criteria and rubric for their awards as needed
- Continue to work with the Games and Gaming Round Table to produce future iterations of ALAPlay